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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q63016

Masahiko MAEDA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/762,441

Group Art Unit: 1773

Confirmation No.: 4617

Examiner: Ramsey E. Zacharia

Filed: February 8, 2001

For: LEATHER COATED WITH FLUORINE-CONTAINING RESIN

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a Statement of the substance of a telephonic interview of March 16, 2005 with the undersigned.

As indicated by the Examiner in the Interview Summary dated March 18, 2005, an Amendment and Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132 were previously filed on February 23, 2005.

Two issues were discussed, namely, (i) the amendment to the claims limiting the fluorine-containing resin to a TFE resin or a CTFE resin having hydroxyl group, to the exclusion of the vinylidene fluoride copolymer of Saitoh et al.; and (ii) the test data presented in the Rule 1.132 Declaration as a basis for patentability.

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With regard to (i) above, the Examiner considered that Saitoh et al. teaches a vinylidene fluoride copolymer containing up to 30 mole % TFE, and disagreed that the amendment to claim 1, given its broadest reasonable interpretation, excludes the prior art copolymer.

With respect to (ii), the Examiner indicated that he would favorably consider an amendment which clearly excludes the VdF copolymer of Saitoh et al. independent of the Declaration evidence.

The undersigned confirms that the Examiner's Interview Summary dated March 18, 2005 is accurate. Claim 1 and U.S. Patent 5,229,469 to Saitoh et al. (prior art) were mainly discussed. No agreement was reached with respect to the Amendment filed February 23, 2005.

It is respectfully submitted that the instant STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.2 and 1.133 and MPEP §713.04.

It is believed that no petition or fee is required. However, if the USPTO deems otherwise, Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



Abraham J. Rosner
Registration No. 33,276

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: April 18, 2005